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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/495,519	02/01/2000	Masayoshi Tanimura	723-812	4970
7590	10/21/2004		EXAMINER	
Nixon & Vanderhye 1100 North Glebe Road 8th Floor Arlington, VA 22201			EBRAHIMI DEHKORDY, SAEID	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2626	

DATE MAILED: 10/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/495,519	TANIMURA, MASAYOSHI
	Examiner Saeid Ebrahimi-dehKordy	Art Unit 2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 June 2004.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
|  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

### **Response to Amendment**

1. Newly submitted claim 1-20 directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: the original claim 1-20 and specifically claim 1,11,12,14,16 and 20 were directed to the image generating means for generating an object image and manipulating that object image, while the new set of amended claims completely redirects the invention to a Television game in the virtual world where image generating program is directed to a game progression as directed by the user playing the game.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, the new amended claim 1-20 withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

### **DETAILED ACTION**

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-5,11-18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Colvill et al (U.S. patent 5,521,722) in view of Bollman (U.S. patent 5,218,350)

Regarding claim 1 and 14 Colvill et al disclose: An apparatus for displaying an object image, comprising: object image generator for generating the object image by operating an object image generation program according to instructions from a user

(please note Fig.1 column 18 lines 66-67 and column 19 lines 1-11 where the user could be displayed the generated images by means of user's instructions), However Colvill et al does not disclose: a selector for selecting an arbitrary part of said generated object image according to instructions from said user a transition information generator for generating transition information when said object image is selected a and a transition information storage for storing said transition information wherein the object image arbitrarily selected by said user is recoverable at a future time according to the transition information stored in said transition information storage and said object image generation program, On the other hand Bollman discloses: a selector for selecting an arbitrary part of said generated object image according to instructions from said user (please note Bollman Fig.1 item 40 , column 4 lines 51-58 where the selective are of the image is chosen) a transition information generator for generating transition information when said object image is selected (please note Bollman, column 4 lines 10-16 where the selected colors are transmitted to the display) a and a transition information storage for storing said transition information (please note Fig.2 column 4 lines 39-45 where the transition information in this case the LUTs are stored in the memory) wherein the object image arbitrarily selected by said user is recoverable at a future time according to the transition information stored in said transition information storage and said object image generation program (please note column 5 lines 34-45 where the luminance/chrominance equations that are define the relative position of the image in luminous chrominance space with respect to the original are stored and applied to the original image).

Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in art at the time of the invention to modify Colvill et al 's invention according to the teaching of, Bollman, Bollman in the same field of endeavor teaches the way the selected part of the image is altered and modified and stored in purpose of making the adjustment and modification on the part of the image more accurate.

Regarding claim 2 Bollman discloses: The object image display apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said object image generation program is stored in ROM and said transition information storage is a rewritable non-volatile memory (please note column 4 lines 39-45).

Regarding claim 3 Bollman discloses: The object image display apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said ROM and said rewritable non-volatile memory are accommodated in a device which is removable from a body of the object image display apparatus (please note column 5 lines 34-41).

Regarding claim 4 Colvill et al disclose: The object image display apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said ROM and said rewritable non-volatile memory are separately removable from a body of the object image display apparatus (please note column 19 lines 1-2).

Regarding claim 5 Colvill et al disclose: The object image display apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising: a recovery program for recovering the object image arbitrarily selected by said user by operating said object image generation program using the transition information stored in said transition information storage as an operational parameter (please note column 19 lines 5-10).

Regarding claim 11,16 and 20 Colvill et al disclose: A system for printing an object image, comprising: an object image processing apparatus for processing said object image (please note Fig.1 column 18 lines 66-67 and column 19 lines 1-11) and a printer for printing the object image processed by said object image processing apparatus (please note Fig.1 item 6 the printer, column 19 lines 4-5) said object image processing apparatus generating said object image by operating an object image generation program according to instructions from a user (please note Fig.1 column 18 lines 66-67 and column 19 lines 1-11 where the user could be displayed the generated images by means of user's instructions) and recovering the object image arbitrarily selected by said user by operating said object image processing program using said transition information as an operational parameter and said printer printing said recovered object image (please note Colvill et al, column 19 lines 5-10).

However Colvill et al do not disclose: selecting an arbitrary part of said generated object image, according to instructions from said user generating transition information of an object image representing said selected arbitrary part of the object image (please note Bollman Fig.1 item 40, column 4 lines 51-58 where the selective are of the image is chosen), On the other hand Bollman discloses: selecting an arbitrary part of said generated object image, according to instructions from said user generating transition information of an object image representing said selected arbitrary part of the object image (please note Bollman Fig.1 item 40, column 4 lines 51-58 where the selective are of the image is chosen).

Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in art at the time of the invention to modify Colvill et al 's invention according to the teaching of, Bollman, Bollman in the same field of endeavor teaches the way the selected part of the image is altered and modified and stored in purpose of making the adjustment and modification on the part of the image more accurate.

Regarding claim 12 Colvill et al disclose: A system for printing an object image, comprising: an object image generator for generating an object image to be displayed and recovery data for the object image to be printed (please note Colvill et al, column 19 lines 5-10). a recovery device for recovering the object image to be printed based on the recovery data supplied from said object image generator (please note Colvill et al column 18 lines 66-67 and column 19 lines 1-19) and a printer for printing the object image recovered by said recovery device (please note Colvill et al column 19 lines 5-7) said object image generator generating the object image to be displayed by operating an object image generation program according to instructions from a user (please note Colvill et al Fig.1 column 18 lines 66-67 and column 19 lines 1-11 where the user could be displayed the generated images by means of user's instructions), However Colvill et al do not disclose: selecting an arbitrary part of said generated object image, according to instructions from said user and generating transition information of an object image representing said selected arbitrary part of the object image as said recovery data said recovery device, with a program identical to said object image generation program stored therein recovering the arbitrary object image selected by said user by operating the program identical to the object image generation program using- said transition

information as an operational parameter and said printer printing said recovered object image, On the other hand Bollman discloses: selecting an arbitrary part of said generated object image, according to instructions from said user (please note Bollman Fig.1 item 40, column 4 lines 51-58 where the selective area of the image is chosen) and generating transition information of an object image representing said selected arbitrary part of the object image as said recovery data (please note Bollman, column 4 lines 10-16 where the selected colors are transmitted to the display). said recovery device, with a program identical to said object image generation program stored therein recovering the arbitrary object image selected by said user by operating the program identical to the object image generation program using- said transition information as an operational parameter and said printer printing said recovered object image (please note column 5 lines 34-45 where the luminance/chrominance equations that define the relative position of the image in luminous chrominance space with respect to the original are stored and applied to the original image).

Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in art at the time of the invention to modify Colvill et al 's invention according to the teaching of, Bollman, Bollman in the same field of endeavor teaches the way the selected part of the image is altered and modified and stored in purpose of making the adjustment and modification on the part of the image more accurate.

Regarding claim 13 and 15 Colvill et al disclose: The object image print system as claimed in claim 11, further comprising: a display for displaying a plurality of object images recovered by operating said object image processing program using said

transition Information as an operational parameter as recovered object images and a recovered image selector for selecting an arbitrary recovered object image from the recovered object images displayed on said display according to instructions by the user, wherein said printer is operable to print the selected recovered object image (please note column 19 lines 1-11).

Regarding claim 17 Colvill et al disclose: The recording medium as claimed in claim 16, wherein said computer program further causes said object image generator to execute the steps of recovering the object image arbitrarily selected by said user by operating said object image program using the transition information as an operational parameter; and printing out said recovered object image (please note column 19 lines 1-10).

Regarding claim 18 Colvill et al disclose: The recording medium as claimed in claim 16, wherein said computer program further causes said object image generator to execute the steps of displaying a plurality of object images recovered by operating said object image processing program using said transition information as an operational parameter as recovered object images selecting an arbitrary recovered object image from the recovered object images displayed on said display according to instructions by the user; and printing out said selected recovered object image (please note column 18 lines 66-67 and column 19 lines 1-20).

4. Claims 6-10 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Colvill et al (U.S. patent 5,521,722) in view of Bollman (U.S. patent 5,218,350) and further in view of Hisano (U.S. patent 6,138,173)

Regarding claim 6 neither Colvill et al nor Bollman disclose: The object image display apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said object image generator generates the object image-e according to progress of game which varies in response to instructions from the user, However Hisano discloses: The object image display apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said object image generator generates the object image according to progress of game which varies in response to instructions from the user (please note column 21 lines 12-23)

Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in art at the time of the invention to modify Colvill et al and Bollman's invention according to the teaching of Hisano, Hisano teaches the way games could be modified through the computer by storing the games in the memory in order to access or recall the games previously stored.

Regarding claim 7 Hisano discloses: The object image display apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said object image is a two-dimensional image (please note column 24 lines 51-63)

Regarding claim 8 Hisano discloses: The object image display apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said object image is a three--dimensional image (please note column 24 lines 57-59).

Regarding claim 9 Hisano discloses: The object image display apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein said transition information includes coordinates and direction of an object and coordinates and direction of a viewpoint (please note column 20 lines 27-34)

Regarding claim 10 Hisano discloses: The object image display apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein said transition information is game progress information in a game (please note column 21 lines 12-22).

Regarding claim 19 Hisano discloses: The recording medium as claimed in claim 17, wherein said object image generator generates the object image according to progress of a game, which varies in response to instructions from the user, based on said computer program (please note column 21 lines 12-20).

### **Conclusion**

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

### **Contact Information**

- Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to *Saeid Ebrahimi-Dehkordy* whose telephone number is (703) 306-3487.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams, can be reached at (703) 305-4863.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**Or faxed to:**

(703) 872-9306, or (703) 308-9052 (for *formal* communications; please mark  
“**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**”)

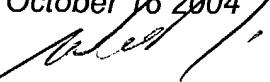
**Or:**

(703) 306-5406 (for *informal* or *draft* communications, please label  
“**PROPOSED**” or “**DRAFT**”)

**Hand delivered responses** should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750.

Saeid Ebrahimi-Dehkordy  
Patent Examiner  
Group Art Unit 2626  
October 16 2004



Kimberly Williams  
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